Student & School Exhibitions: Celebrating the “Amazing” things students are doing in Rhode Island’s schools

Barrington Middle School - Barrington
Podcasting for Connected Learning

Our students are empowered through project-based learning using the design method. Students will share how they have designed and produced a community podcast featuring teacher leaders and students using professional recording skills. Subjects of the podcast include the four C’s of 21st century learning including collaboration across the community, communication through multimodal texts, using critical thinking that links interdisciplinary projects, and exhibiting creativity through entrepreneurial solutions (www.BMS4C.org). Guests will be encouraged to record a sound bite for our podcast and see the online production tools used.

John F. Horgan Elementary School - West Warwick
Family Literacy Events

Each month Horgan Elementary School hosts a family literacy event. A few examples of our fun family nights include: You “Autumn” Be Reading! With activities including student poem reading from take-home books, family crafts, and a Vocabulary “Shout Out” where families shouted out vocabulary words to be used in our poem reading and other families shouted out a definition; all vocabulary words were hung on the cafeteria tree. In February, our family literacy event focused on the topic of caring and kind words. Families played a game of “Say it! Don’t Say It!” and created coupon books for family fun activities that have little or no cost. Our March event will focus on healthy minds and healthy bodies, including Zumba and working with families to create a healthy meal plan on a budget.

Joseph J. McCourt Middle School - Cumberland
STEAM Education & Visual Arts

STEAM is integrated into the Visual Art program at McCourt Middle School using the Design Thinking pedagogy: students research, brainstorm, and collaborate in order to create a product. Whether it was crushing chalk using a mortar and pestle or soaking markers in water to develop upcycled pigment, students discovered amazing color schemes for innovative and unique final products.

Melrose School - Jamestown
World Language (K-4)

Direct Spanish instruction and teaching cultural competence to all students in grades K-4 is present at Melrose. We formed a study group comprised of all community stakeholders. Looking into various models, the group decided on a model where the world language teacher would be teaching with the classroom teacher present during instruction. A survey was created and launched for the school’s parent community; its results supported this initiative. We recommended Spanish as the world language selection, and the first phase of this K-4 world language program began this fall at Melrose School.

Narragansett High School - Narragansett
Student Teacher Assistant Program

This year, Narragansett High School implemented a Student Teacher Assistant program. Upperclassmen in good standing have the opportunity complete an internship under the guidance of a classroom teacher, for which they receive credit and which also appears on their transcript. Teacher assistants provide additional academic support to students, research and create resources for teachers, facilitate collaborative work, and model successful learning behaviors. The program provides teacher assistants with the opportunity to explore teaching as a possible career, develop communication skills, build confidence, and enhance their knowledge in preferred content areas.

Thank you to all of the schools that submitted stories of the “Amazing” work taking place. Keep up your great work!
Segue Institute for Learning - Central Falls
Mindful Mondays for Middle School
An 8-week course, based primarily on the evidenced based “Mindful Schools” elementary and middle school curriculum, is offered to all 240 students in grades 6-8 throughout the school year and co-taught by a school social worker and the primary classroom teacher. The goal of this curriculum is to aid students in the development of moment-by-moment awareness of their thoughts, emotions, sensations, and surrounding environment. Mindful practice has been shown through research to increase attention, emotional regulation, adaptability, compassion, calmness, and resilience.

Scituate High School - Scituate
Service Learning in Prosthetic Design and Construction
Standing upon the shoulders of the giants who have created a global community of makers using their 3-D printers to make inexpensive prosthetic devices, students enrolled in Scituate High School’s RIDE approved Engineering CTE Pathway have been applying their learning in a unique and highly meaningful service project. Scituate Middle School math teacher Nicole Mancini asked the group to help make a forearm and hand for her son, Olly, who was born missing a portion of this left arm. Students used the resources from the E-Nable community and Team Unlimbited to print and build a customized, functional hand for a 9-year old boy. Now the group has teamed up with another family to assist a 12-year old to modify another type of prosthetic design.

Potter-Burns Elementary School - Pawtucket
Preparing Future-Ready Students
At Potter-Burns, we are working with Code.org to increase access to computer science by breaking stereotypes and opening doors. Our goal is for students and teachers to learn that computer science is fun: you can start at any age, in any classroom, even if you don’t have a computer. In addition to Code.org, our students receive 45 minutes of Mandarin each week. Offering Mandarin prepares our students for careers in a world and workplace in which our country’s bilateral ties play a consequential role. Lastly, Potter-Burns highlighted the instructional strategy “Accountable Talk” school-wide. Accountable talk stimulates higher-order thinking: helping students to learn, reflect on their learning, and communicate their knowledge and understanding while being engaged in the learning environment.

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Wawaloam School - Exeter-West Greenwich
Computer Technology, Courage, and Kindness
Teachers at Wawaloam volunteered to attend the Code.org training. During the week of December 4-10, every Grade 1 student participated in “The Hour of Code.” From this experience, one classroom took on the challenge of introducing unplugged lessons to the classroom. They had so much fun with this that they connected with a Kindergarten classroom so the Grade 1 students had the chance to “teach” the lessons that they have learned, as well as practicing their skills in patience and kindness. This is a win-win situation for everyone involved, and there are plans to extend this further throughout the school community!

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